



City Manager's Office

July 31, 2015

Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager
Senior Engineering Geologist
California Department of Public Resources
901 "P" Street, Room 213A
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Re: City of Tulare Notice of Intent to Form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Dear Mr. Nordberg:

Pursuant to Water Code Section 10723, the City of Tulare ("City"), a Charter Law city of the State of California, hereby gives notice pursuant to Water Code Section 10723 of its intent to form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("GSA"). Specifically, it is the City's intent to enter into a joint powers agreement pursuant to Water Code 10723.6 with the City of Visalia and the Tulare Irrigation District to form a Joint Powers Authority for the purpose of serving as a GSA that would undertake sustainable groundwater management within a portion of the Kaweah Sub-basin (DWR Sub-basin No. 5-22.11). Pursuant to Water Code Section 10723(d), the boundaries for the area that the Joint Powers Authority would serve as a GSA are generally described as the area within jurisdictional boundaries of each member of the Joint Power Authority once it is formed.

On July 21, 2015, after giving notice as required by Water Code Section 10723 and Government Code Section 6066, the City held a public hearing in accordance with Water Code Section 10723(b). Following the hearing, the City Council affirmed its intent to enter into a joint powers agreement for the purpose of forming a Joint Powers Authority with the City of Visalia and the Tulare Irrigation District that will serve as a GSA for the above-described portion of the Kaweah Sub-basin.

The City is informed that the City of Visalia approved similar actions at their public hearing of July 20, 2015, and that Tulare Irrigation District has noticed its public hearing for August 11, 2015. Once these public hearings are complete, assuming all of the parties have so authorized, the joint powers agreement will be finalized and executed by the parties, thereby forming a Joint Powers Authority. The newly formed Joint Powers Authority will then submit notice of formation of a GSA to the Department in accordance with Water Code Section 10723.8, thereby signifying its intent to serve as a GSA and undertake sustainable groundwater management as described above.

In the interim, the City intends to continue to work with the City of Visalia and Tulare Irrigation District to consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater in the Kaweah Sub-basin in accordance with Water Code Section 10723.2. To that end, the City intends to continue to work with the City of Visalia and Tulare Irrigation District to identify a list of interested parties for the purpose of considering how their interests will be addressed in the development and operation of the GSA once it is formed, and the development and implementation of a groundwater sustainability plan once that task is undertaken. The City also intends to continue to work with the City of Visalia and the Tulare Irrigation District to reach out to other public agencies considering and capable of forming additional GSAs in the Kaweah Sub-basin, for the purpose of coordinating efforts for sustainable groundwater management planning and development of a Coordination Agreement in accordance with Water Code Sections 10721(d), 10727(b)(3), and 10727.6.

If you have any questions, or require further information regarding any of these matters, please contact me at (559) 684-4200.

Sincerely,



Don Dorman
City Manager

cc: Mike Olmos, City Manager
Leslie Caviglia, Assistant City Manager
City of Visalia
Paul Hendrix, General Manager
Tulare Irrigation District